

**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE  
150 YEARS OLD**

**CALENDAR**

**MASSACHUSETTS PESTICIDE EXAM SCHEDULE**

UMASS Eastern Extension Center—240 Beaver St., Waltham

**MAY 31.** Deadline for submitting application is **MAY 24.**

**JUNE 14.** Deadline for submitting application is **JUNE 7.**

**QUESTIONS CALL—617-626-1785.**

**FARM & FOOD WORKSHOP-ORGANIC/BIODYNAMIC ORCHARD MANAGEMENT**

**MAY 25.** Columbia County, NY, **CALL—518-427-6537**

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**CONSUMERS FEEL SAFETY'S ASSURED FOR FOOD SUPPLY**

By Chris Koger

Supermarket owners were dealt a seemingly losing hand last year: higher energy costs, an economic downturn, rising unemployment rates and lagging consumer confidence immediately following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

But what wasn't lagging—even as anthrax scares and discussions about food security grabbed headlines—was consumer confidence in the food supply, according to the Food Marketing Institute's "Trends in the United States: Consumer Attitudes & the Supermarket, 2002." The report, unveiled during FMI's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary show May 5-7 in Chicago, gave retailers a glimmer of hope.

A majority of more than 2,000 randomly selected consumers who took the survey said they had confidence in the safety of their food, with 81% making that claim, up from 74% in 2000.

"They want from us food that they can count on," said Michael Sansolo, FMI senior vice president. "Over the past year, they got reasons to be a little distrustful. We've gone through the publicity about mad cow, about foot and mouth (disease). After Sept. 11 we had countless—all unproven—reports about anthrax in stores, and there's this repeated parade of media stories about food safety."

Dan Faketty, vice president of loss prevention for the 148 Harris Teeter Inc. stores, said his retail chain was in the process of making security upgrades before the Sept. 11 attacks, but they spurred on extra measures.

Harris Teeter distributed FMI's protocol on responding to a biological threat, which also includes a list of items that might trigger an anthrax scare, including natural bloom on produce, a naturally occurring thin white haze.

FMI president and CEO Tim Hammonds said anyone who plans to intentionally harm others through the food supply should not underestimate the industry's security procedures, which range from increased background checks to surveillance equipment and restriction of access to facilities.

Hammonds asked retailers to register with Food Industry Security Information and Analysis Center, which partners FMI with the National Infrastructure Protection Center to provide help reporting and assessing possible threats to the food industry.

Consumers place a premium on high-quality fruits and vegetables, with produce second in importance only to the store's overall cleanliness. Other notable items:

- Half of shoppers said they were "very concerned" about the nutritional content of their diet, up 4% from 2000.
- Eating main meals away from home decreased in 2001.
- While fast food restaurants are the main source of takeout, 17% said the supermarket is their most frequent source of takeout meals, compared to 14% for restaurants.

(Article from "*THE PACKER*" May 13, 2002)

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Massachusetts Commissioner of Food and Agriculture Douglas Gillespie handed out locally grown McIntosh apples April 15 at the finish line of the Boston Marathon.

The New England McIntosh Growers Association was a sponsor of the race and distributed more than 30,000 apples during several race-week events. The association's sponsorship was made possible by funding from the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture.

"The date of the marathon, mid-April, is ideal for reminding consumers that quality McIntosh and other New England apples are available well past their traditional growing season," said Russell Powell, the association's executive director.

Powell competed in the race.

(Article from *"THE PACKER"* May 13, 2002).

#### APPLE SHIPMENT TRACKING

Source: USDA

Amounts are shown in units of 10,000 pounds

Season Begins	04/28/02- 05/04/02	04/21/02- 04/27/02	04/29/01- 05/05/01	Total this season 05/04/02	Total last season 05/05/01
SEPTEMBER	9,915	8,271	10,516	332,754	385,380

#### MID-WEEK F.O.B. PRICES AT MASSACHUSETTS COUNTRY SHIPPING POINT

Prices and grades received by telephone, MAY 21, 2002

##### Controlled Atmosphere

VARIETY	GRADE	SIZE	PRICE
<b>McINTOSH</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	<b>19.00</b>
		96s	<b>18.50</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>12.50</b>
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	<b>14.00</b>
<b>EMPIRE</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	<b>18.00</b>
		96s	<b>17.50</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>11.50</b>
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	<b>13.00</b>
<b>RED DELICIOUS</b>	Cartons Tray Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s & 88s	<b>13.50</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>11.00</b>
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	<b>13.00</b>

#### FEDERAL MARKET NEWS SERVICE, EVERETT, MASS.

MAY 20, 2002

##### Controlled Atmosphere LITTLE CHANGE

#### NEW ENGLAND

<b>McINTOSH</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s & 96s	<b>18.00</b>
		100s	<b>20.00-21.50</b>
		120s	<b>15.00</b>
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Fancy	80s & 96s	<b>11.00-12.00</b>
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. No. 1	80s	<b>12.00</b>
		100s	<b>9.00- 9.50</b>
		120s	<b>10.00-11.00</b>
		140s	<b>9.00-10.00</b>

	Cartons Film Bags U.S. No. 1	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>10.00</b>
		12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>10.00</b>
<b>CORTLAND</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. No. 1	72s	<b>15.00</b>
		80s	<b>12.00-15.00 mostly 15.00</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>15.00-16.00</b>
<b>GOLDEN DELICIOUS</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s & 88s	<b>20.00</b>
<b>ROME</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	64s	<b>20.00</b>
<b>SHIPPED IN</b>			
<b>McINTOSH</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s & 100s	<b>19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00</b>
	Lake Champlain Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	<b>24.00</b>
		100s	<b>23.00</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. No. 1	80s	<b>11.00</b>
		100s	<b>10.00</b>
		120s	<b>9.50</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>10.00</b>
<b>CORTLAND</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>15.00-16.00</b>
<b>EMPIRE</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	88s	<b>16.00</b>
		100s	<b>15.00</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>9.00-10.00</b>
		12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>9.00</b>
<b>RED DELICIOUS</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns TryPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	<b>15.00</b>
		88s	<b>14.00</b>
	Western Section Ctns TryPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	<b>16.00</b>
		88s	<b>15.00</b>
		100s	<b>13.50</b>
	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	64s	<b>16.00-17.00 fine appear. 19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00</b>
		72s & 80s	<b>16.00-17.00 fine appear. 19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00-21.00</b>
		88s	<b>16.00-19.00 mostly 16.00-17.00 fine appear 18.00-21.00</b>
		100s	<b>16.00-17.00 fine appear. 18.00-20.00</b>
		113s	<b>16.00-17.00</b>
		125s	<b>16.00-18.00 mostly 17.00</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBgs U.S. Fcy	12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>10.00</b>
<b>GOLDEN DELICIOUS</b>	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	64s	<b>25.00-28.00</b>
		72s	<b>25.00-28.00 mostly 26.00</b>
		80s	<b>23.00-24.00 mostly 24.00</b>
		88s	<b>24.00-24.50</b>
		100s	<b>20.00-22.00</b>
		113s & 125s	<b>18.00</b>
	WA Cartons Cell Pack WAExFcy	80s	<b>26.00-27.50</b>
		96s	<b>24.00-25.00</b>
	PA Cartons Cell Pack U.S. ExFcy	100s	<b>17.00</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBgs U.S. Fcy	12-3s 2-12" min	<b>12.00-13.00</b>
<b>ROME</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	<b>15.00</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3 2-1/2" min	<b>9.00-10.00</b>

<b>RED ROME</b>	PA Cartons Cell Pack U.S. ExFcy	88s	<b>15.00</b>
<b>CRISPIN</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	56s	<b>15.00</b>
		72s	<b>16.00</b>
		80s	<b>15.00</b>
<b>BRAEBURN</b>	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	88s	<b>26.00</b>
<b>FUJI</b>	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	56s	<b>21.00-24.00</b>
		64s	<b>23.00-25.00</b>
		80s	<b>23.00-26.00 mostly 24.00</b>
		88s	<b>22.00-26.00 mostly 24.00</b>
		100s	<b>21.00-22.00</b>
<b>CAMEO</b>	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	72s	<b>24.00-25.00</b>
		80s	<b>22.00-24.00</b>
		88s	<b>24.00-24.50</b>
<b>PINK LADY</b>	WA Cartons Tray pack WAExFcy	80s & 88s	<b>34.00</b>
<b>GRANNY SMITH</b>	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	64s & 72s	<b>25.00-28.00 mostly 27.00</b>
		80s	<b>20.00-24.00</b>
		88s	<b>20.00-24.00</b>
		100s	<b>17.00-20.00 mostly 18.00-20.00</b>
		113s	<b>18.00-19.00</b>
		125s	<b>17.00-18.00</b>
	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>16.00-17.50</b>
<b>Howard Vinton, Editor</b>			

